



Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Attorney's Office

Date: May 10, 2012

To: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Referral to:

Subject: Acceptance of Downtown Improvement District Grant Award

Recommendation: That the proper City officials be authorized to execute a grant contract for \$150,000.00 with the Downtown Improvement District providing grant funds to the City Attorney's Office for continuation of the downtown chronic offender prosecution program ("Downtown 100") with a subcontract to Hennepin County in the amount of \$65,000 for a community corrections officer.

Previous Directives:
None

Prepared or Submitted by Susan Segal, City Attorney, 673-3272

Approved by Susan Segal, City Attorney, 673-3272

Presenter in Committee: Susan Segal

Permanent Review Committee (PRC) Approval _____ Not Applicable x

Note: The policy Review Group is a committee co-chaired by the City Clerk and the City Coordinator that must review all requests related to establishing or changing enterprise policies.

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information).
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the _____ Capital Budget or _____ Operating Budget (01300-1400100) in the amount of _____ spread over a two-year period.
- ☒ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase to the CAO Operating Budget (01300-1400100), in the amount of \$150,000.00 for current calendar year.
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves.
- ☐ Business Plan: _____ Action is within the plan. _____ Actions requires a change to plan.
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain): _____
- ☐ Request provided to department's finance contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator.

Community Impact (use any categories that apply)

Neighborhood Notification – N/A

City Goals – A Safe Place to Call Home

Comprehensive Plan – N/A

Zoning Code – N/A

Other

Background/Supporting Information

The Downtown Improvement District ("DID") is providing grant funding in calendar year 2012 for the Downtown 100 initiative. The purpose of the Downtown 100 initiative is to reduce crime and improve public perceptions of the safety of Downtown Minneapolis through an intense, team-based prosecution approach for the most chronic livability property and drug crime offenders in the Downtown area. The initiative will involve a cooperative effort between the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office, the Hennepin County Attorney's Office, Hennepin County Community Corrections, the Minneapolis Police Department, the DID and its subsidiary, Safe Zone and other downtown community members and stakeholders.

The DID is providing \$150,000 to the City of Minneapolis to fund an additional prosecutor position and a full-time downtown community probation officer. Because the program has shown to be successful, the DID is renewing the grant for another year. Through a subcontract with Hennepin County, \$65,000 of this grant will be provided to the County for probation officer services.

The Minneapolis City Attorney's Office ("MCAO") is providing an experienced prosecutor who, along with the First Precinct Community Attorney and community paralegal, will handle a prosecution caseload of 50 chronic offenders who have a pattern of criminal conduct within Downtown Minneapolis for livability, property, drug and sex crimes.

The Hennepin County Attorney's Office ("HCAO") Drug and Property Crimes and Juvenile Divisions, as applicable, work closely with the MCAO on the Downtown chronic offenders who also commit felony offenses. The HCAO and MCAO prosecutors are cross-deputized on a case-by-case basis, as appropriate, to allow seamless handling of the chronic offender cases.

Hennepin County Community Corrections is providing a full-time, experienced probation officer to the Downtown area, who is based in the First Precinct station to supervise a probation caseload equivalent to active supervision of up to 50 chronic offenders. The probation officer provides active supervision to the chronic offenders on the Downtown 100 caseload as well as participates in other probation activities in support of the Downtown 100 initiative. Supervision of the Downtown 100 chronics include felony and misdemeanor cases. Chronic misdemeanants are subject to rigorous supervision, a comprehensive assessment and active connection to services. The probation officer with fellow members of the Downtown 100 SafeZone Strategy team assist in crafting probation conditions designed to prevent recidivism such as connecting offenders with available services and programs that provide housing, employment, chemical dependency and mental health treatment. The Downtown 100 team actively work with system partners such as Heading Home Hennepin's homeless outreach workers, CPED's employment programs and Judge Hopper's mental health court.